



The Cleveland Museum of Art

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THE CLEVELAND MUSEUM OF ART FEATURES SILENT FRENCH CLASSICS

Gaumont Presents: A Century of French Cinema

Sunday afternoons, July 3-August 28.

Shown in Gartner Auditorium. Admission is \$4, \$3 CMA members, \$2 kids 12 and under.

Gaumont, the world's oldest film company, founded in 1895 in France by Léon Gaumont, produced some of the most celebrated films of the past 99 years. To celebrate its centennial, Gaumont has assembled a retrospective from its own meticulously maintained archives, tracing the history of the company throughout the 20th century. The United States tour of the retrospective stops in Cleveland this July and August, with The Cleveland Museum of Art and the Cleveland Cinematheque at the Cleveland Institute of Art each showing a share of the films. The Museum presents a selection of Gaumont silents, made between 1900 and 1929, while a group of later Gaumont sound classics runs concurrently at the Cleveland Cinematheque, 421-7450.

The Museum concludes its survey of Gaumont silents with two legendary fantasy serials by Louis Feuillade, both in newly-struck 35 mm prints, both extremely rare. Feuillade's epics laid much of the groundwork for subsequent mystery, thriller, and suspense films, and influenced scores of filmmakers. Live keyboard accompaniment is provided by Sebastian Birch.

Sun/August 7, 1:30 pm *Les Vampires* (episodes 1-6), 1915, 231 min. A reporter pursuing a gang of criminals follows a trail of murders, kidnappings and suicides. This famous serial – a key work of early surrealism – was accused of glamorizing underworld life, and one episode was temporarily banned by Paris's chief of police. "The greatest of Feuillade's films." -Richard Roud. (Continued Sun/14 – separate admission for each day.)

Sun/August 14, 1:30 pm *Les Vampires* (episodes 7-10), 1915, 175 min. Directed by Louis Feuillade. Conclusion of the 7-hour serial begun last week.

Sun/August 21, 1:30 pm *Judex* (episodes 1-5), 1917, 172 min. Feuillade's most popular serial is a fantastic adventure about a mysterious caped crusader who fights for justice to avenge his father's suicide. (Continued Sun/28 – separate admission for each day.)

Sun/August 28, 1:30 pm *Judex* (episodes 6-12), 1917, 144 min. Directed by Louis Feuillade. Conclusion of the 5-hour serial begun last week.

All films shown courtesy of Gaumont, Inc.